

What is claimed is:

1. An e-mail delivery apparatus comprising:

a receiving means for receiving e-mail and  
transmission time information designating a time the e-  
5 mail is to be sent to the mail destination;

a memory means for storing the received e-mail  
and the transmission time information; and

a transmission means for reading e-mail stored  
in the memory means based on the transmission time  
10 information and sending information in accordance with  
the read e-mail to the mail destination; wherein

said transmission means inquires at the mail  
destination whether or not it desires to receive the  
information in accordance with the e-mail before the time  
15 designated by the transmission time information and, when  
receiving a response that it desires to receive the  
information in accordance with the e-mail from the mail  
destination, sends the information in accordance with the  
e-mail to the mail destination.

20 2. An e-mail delivery apparatus as set forth in  
claim 1, wherein said receiving means inquires to a  
transmitter of said e-mail about a time for sending said  
e-mail when receiving said e-mail and receives said  
transmission time information in accordance with the  
25 inquiry.

3. An e-mail delivery apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said receiving means receives address management information of the mail destination of said e-mail and charging information; and

said e-mail delivery apparatus further comprises an address management means for managing an address of the mail destination of information in accordance with said e-mail based on said address management information and a charging means for performing charging based on said charging information.

4. An e-mail delivery apparatus as set forth in claim 3, wherein said charging means performs at least one of charging processing to the transmitter of the e-mail at the time of receiving said e-mail and charging processing to the mail destination at the time of sending the information in accordance with said e-mail.

5. An e-mail delivery apparatus as set forth in claim 3, wherein, when a notice of change of address of the mail destination of said e-mail is received, said address management means sends the information in accordance with said e-mail to the changed address.

6. An e-mail delivery apparatus as set forth in any one of claims 1, wherein said transmission means sends the information in accordance with said e-mail to

said mail destination in at least one form of e-mail, facsimile, telephone, and snail mail.

7. A method of e-mail delivery including the steps of

5            sending e-mail and transmission time  
information designating a time the e-mail is to be sent  
to a mail destination from a terminal to an e-mail  
delivery apparatus;

10           inquiring from the e-mail delivery apparatus to  
the terminal whether or not the terminal desires to  
receive the information in accordance with the e-mail  
before a time specified by the transmission time  
information; and

15           sending the information in accordance with the  
e-mail from the e-mail delivery apparatus to the terminal  
when the e-mail delivery apparatus receives a response  
that it desires to receive the information in accordance  
with the e-mail from the terminal.